

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 07023 220801Z

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5885

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NODIS

E.9. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, KS, KN, US

SUBJECT: KOREAN INITIATIVES FOR UPCOMING UNGA

REF: (A) STATE 193729; (B) SEOUL 6997; (C) STATE 198351

SUMMARY: INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING SECRETARY'S UNGA STATEMENT
APPEAR TO CONFLICT. FROM OUR PERSPECTIVE A SHORT AND
POSITIVE REFERENCE WOULD BE MOST USEFUL. END SUMMARY.

1. REF A, RECEIVED HERE AUGUST 19 HAD FOLLOWING INSTRUCTION
PARA 9: QUOTE YOU MAY INDICATE THAT WE WILL CONSULT LATER
REGARDING AN APPROPRIATE STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY AT
THIS AUTUMN'S UNGA DEALING WITH KOREA. END QUOTE. THIS
WAS LINE FOLLOWED IN CHARGE'S AUGUST 19 MEETING WITH
FONMIN REPORTED REF B.

2. REF C, RECEIVED HERE AUGUST 20, APPEARS IN PARA 4 TO
CONTRADICT EARLIER GUIDANCE: QUOTE WITH REGARD TO YOUR
COMMENTS TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER ON US UNGA SPEECH, YOU
SHOULD KNOW THAT THE PRESENT PLANNING FOR THE TONE AND
AMBIENCE OF THE SPEECH MAKE IT MOST UNLIKELY THAT KOREA
WILL BE SPECIFICALLY RAISED. IN VIEW OF OTHER ISSUES
YOU ARE DISCUSSING WITH FONMIN AT THIS JUNCTURE, THIS
IS NOT TIMELY OCCASION TO CARRY OUT OUR PROMISED CONSUL-

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TATION ON US UNGA STATEMENT, BUT YOU SHOULD AVOID LEADING
FOREIGN MINISTER TO BELIEVE THAT A KOREA STATEMENT WILL
BE INCLUDED. END QUOTE

3. ANY STATEMENT ON KOREA WE ASSUME WOULD BE SHORT AND
POSITIVE IN TONE. TO FAIL TO MENTION KOREA AT ALL,
HOWEVER, WOULD, WE BELIEVE, HAVE FOLLOWING ADVERSE

CONSEQUENCES: (A) OTHER COUNTRIES, WHOSE ATTENTION HAS BEEN FOCUSED ON KOREA DUE TO TROOP WITHDRAWAL, MIGHT READ AN OMISSION AS A WEAKENING OF US RESOLVE; (B) ROKG MIGHT BE INCLINED TO QUESTION BILATERAL ASSURANCES OF OUR CONTINUED COMMITMENT IF NO MENTION MADE IN WHAT IS SEEN HERE AS MOST IMPORTANT WORLD FORUM; (C) ROKG WOULD, IN LIGHT OF OUR EFFORTS TO SLOW INITIATIVES TO EVOKE FAVORABLE MENTION AT UNGA BY OTHER COUNTRIES, FEEL THE US HAD DAMAGED CURRENTLY PERCEIVED TREND IN WORLD OPINION WHICH FAVORS ROK.

4. EMBASSY URGES CONSIDERATION OF INCLUSION OF A POSITIVE REFERENCE TO KOREA IN SECRETARY'S UNGA STATEMENT AND WILL REFRAIN FROM MAKING POINTS PARA 4, REF C UNTIL FURTHER CLARIFICATION RECEIVED.
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